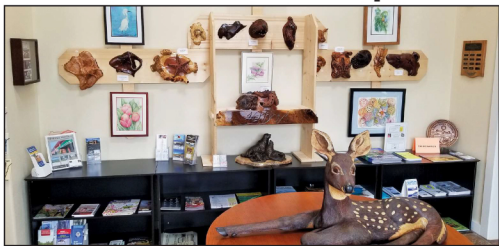


# Heffy's Gallery's wood carvings, paintings on display at Florence Visitors Center in April



Dan "Heffy" Heffron of Heffy's Gallery is this month's featured artist at the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce's Visitors Center, 290 Highway 101.

"This is incredible wood carving. True artistry. There's a full-sized baby white tail buck on our entry table that's just gorgeous, plus some stunning watercolor paintings by Jowanna Gosselin," says Florence Area Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Bettina Hannigan. "And there's an amazing 12-inch, full-sized starfish carving too."

Heffy's Gallery is presenting 16 pieces of exceptional wood carvings and eight of Gosselin's paintings throughout April. Gosselin works in a variety of media on canvas.

Heffron specializes in wood burning sculpture and using unusual burl woods. He uses no paint, stain, or glass eyes for the animals he carves. He procures his materials during his weekly beach walks to clear the beach of plastics and other trash. He walks from the Siltcoos outlet to the jetty.

"The wood I find for my projects is my reward," he explains.



Heffron has been carving wood professionally for more than 40 years. He is self-taught and makes his own tools for his unique style, and plans to offer new carving and sculpting classes, in wood and stone, soon.

"I've been to 26 countries and every state in the U.S. I love it here," he says. "I want to put Florence on the international map as an art mecca and to expand the impact and influence of the art community in the north end of town," he says.

"Heffy is working to make a difference for Florence and the Chamber," says Hannigan.

The artist exudes enthusiasm for the chamber and believes it to be a driving force for good in the business and artisan communities.

Heffron opened Heffy's Gallery on July 4, 2018, at 1856 37th St., behind Lin-

da's Thrift Shop at 37th Street and Highway 101. The 1,000-plus square-foot shop features about 170 pieces of Heffron's work, including a carving of a golden eagle with an eight-foot wingspan. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. daily.

Heffron can be reached at 231-590-0158. His website is [HeffysGallery.com](http://HeffysGallery.com).

"Florence's artist community has a deep love of the area and that passion is shared with our 14,000-plus visitors a year. Florence is well known for its sand dunes, forests, lakes, river and uncrowded beaches — but now it's becoming known as an artist's and art lover's destination," adds Hannigan.

For more about the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce, drop by 290 Highway 101 in Florence, visit online at [FlorenceChamber.com](http://FlorenceChamber.com) or call 541-997-3128.